Transition from Submission to Assertion: In the Selected Works of Sudha Murthy

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement of the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

to

Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies

(Deemed to be University)

by

Ritu Kalra

Registration number: 21/ Ph.D/ 115

Under the supervision of

Dr. Shivani Vashist

Professor, Department of English, SMeH

SCHOOL OF MEDIA STUDIES AND HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MANAV RACHNA INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH & STUDIES

SECTOR-43, SURAJKUND –DELHI ROAD, FARIDABAD - 121004

SCHOOL OF MEDIA STUDIES AND HUMANITIES

Certificate

I hereby declare that the short synopsis **"Transition from Submission to Assertion: In the Selected Works of Sudha Murthy"** being submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in English under the school of Media Studies and Humanities of Manav Rachna International Institute of Research & Studies, Faridabad during the academic year 2019-2022. It is a bona fide record of original work carried out under the supervision of Dr.Shivani Vashist and has not been submitted in full or part to any other university or institute for degree or diploma. Further, it is certified that short synopsis is plagiarism free and proof has been submitted.

(Ritu Kalra)
21/ Ph.D/115

Signature of the supervisor

Dr. Shivani Vashist
Professor, Department of English, SMeH

(Chairman, DRC)

(Dean, SMeH)

ABSTRACT

In India, women's journey has gone through a transition phase from the post-colonial period until the present day. In the years following independence, women's equal rights at home, at work, and in society have received a lot of attention. With the advent of the 20th century and the growth of the feminist movement, women in India were given the opportunity to bravely stand up and speak up for their rights. India has a rich literary tradition, and numerous female writers have contributed significantly to feminist discourse since independence. writers like Arundhati Roy, Anita Desai, Kamala Das, Jhumpa Lahiri, and Shashi Deshpande have not only enriched Indian literature with their diverse voices and perspectives but have also played pivotal roles in advancing feminist discourse in the country.

A female novelist named Sudha Murthy has exemplified the development of Indian English literature. Indian novelist and philanthropist Sudha Murthy has a large body of work. She has published work in both Kannada and English. Her writings are simple to understand, and the reader feels a personal connection to her stories. Sudha Murthy has always taken a brave stance and fought valiantly for women. She inspires all Indian women to rise beyond their lesser selves and become the light that rises with new life every morning by drawing on her own life experiences. Her writings show the advancement of women. The research paper explores the transition phase of female protagonists in patriarchal Indian society. All her works *Gently falls Bakula, Mahashweta,* and *House of Cards* explore the character development of the female protagonist from being submissive to assertive. Her female characters have upheld family values throughout their transitional paths. Respect, dignity, and morals are exemplified by female characters in interpersonal interactions. But when her self-worth and confidence were damaged, the female protagonist broke the shackles and respectfully walked out of suffocating relationships to begin a new chapter in life.

Keywords: Patriarchal society, Submissive, Assertive, Feminism

CONTENTS

S.No	Description	Page No.
1.	Introduction	1 - 2
2.	Literature Review	3 - 5
3.	Research Gaps and Problem Statement	5
4 .	Description of Broad Area	6
5.	Research Objectives	6
6 .	Research Methodology	6
7.	Expected Outcome of the Research	6
	References	
	Plagiarism Report	

INTRODUCTION

The feminist movement grew in India in the late seventies. It has been influenced by Western feminism, just like it did across the globe. According to Indian historical and cultural traditions, feminism was embraced in many ways in India. The feminist movement addressed a number of concerns in a patriarchal culture, including gender equality, political rights, health, and education. The idea behind the growth of feminism in India was to liberate women from their closed spaces so that they could redefine their identity and understand their rights to claim them. The journey towards feminist consciousness in India traces back to the 19th century when reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and Mahatma Phule pioneered early reforms for Indian women. These visionaries laid the groundwork for gender justice, challenging firmly established societal norms and advocating for women's rights. However, it was Mahatma Gandhi who brought new energy into the feminist movement, propagating the principles of gender equality and empowerment. His leadership not only inspired women across the nation but also catalyzed a paradigm shift in societal attitudes towards women's roles and rights. By the 20th century, the landscape of women's activism in India had transformed significantly, with the emergence of numerous women's organizations championing various causes. The post- independence era brought newfound opportunities for women, fostering a rising awareness of economic independence and self-reliance. In this transformative period, the emergence of feminist literature and writers became not just a luxury but a necessity. Within the confines of a patriarchal society, women's writings emerged as potent tools to express the many challenges, traumas, and aspirations of Indian women. Through poignant narratives and insightful commentary, these literary voices illuminated the path towards gender equity and social justice. Indian writers attempt to free Indian women from Indian patriarchy. Many female writers, such as Anita Desai, Bharti Mukherjee, Nayantara Sehgal, Shashi Deshpande, Manju Kapur, and a few more, have presented feminism in their work.

Sudha Murthy is a prolific Indian author, social worker, and philanthropist who has made significant contributions to Indian literature and society. Sudha Murthy's books have had a profound impact on Indian literature and have helped to shape the way that readers think about a wide range of social issues. One of the most notable themes in Sudha's writing

is the role of women in Indian society, and her books often feature strong female characters who defy social norms and overcome significant challenges. As a popular woman novelist, she is concerned with the plight and predicament of women. In her works, she has written about customs, traditions, and beliefs that prevail in society. Her writings are embedded in an Indian context.

Sudha Murthy's female protagonists belong to middle-class society. Since childhood, they have been groomed to adjust and compromise. Their traditional values are deeply rooted, and breaking societal norms is impossible for them. Her women adjust, brought into the family first as daughters and then as daughters-in-law, keeping the values intact. Sudha Murthy's ideology is not man against woman. Her intention is to make women realize their true selves and be conscious of her strengths and potential. In her work, she has portrayed the transition of women from being submissive to assertive. Sudha Murthy's books have helped to give voice to the marginalized and oppressed in Indian society and have challenged readers to think deeply about the social issues that affect their lives. Her writing is characterized by its sensitivity, nuance, and deep understanding of the complexities of Indian culture and society, and has helped to establish her as one of India's most respected authors. Sudha Murthy writes from the heart and her narratives are based on her own personal experiences that she accumulated during her travels across the country. Her poise, calm mind, and patience act as a catalyst in bringing her closer to the readers. She believes in a strong value system, and that is depicted in her writings. In my research work, I intend to take up three novels: *Gently Falls Bakula*,*Mahashwet a*, and *House of Cards*. Her book 'Gently Falls Bakula' captures the attitude and atmosphere of a modern marriage. She has demonstrated how relationships must be tested to survive in a technocratic society. In 'Mahashweta', Sudha tells the story of a young woman who faces discrimination and ostracism because of her skin condition. This work portrays the inner strength of a woman who fights against all odds and discovers her own new self. 'House of Cards' explores human relationships and holds up a mirror to our society with sincerity and conviction. The aim of this research is to highlight the position of contemporary women in society and how the transition takes place from submission to assertion.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Chaudhary, Maitrayae. *Feminism in India.*Zed Books, 2005

This compilation brings together the perspectives of esteemed Indian academics and activists as they engage in discourse on the issue within the backdrop of Indian culture, society, and politics. It delves into the roots of feminism in India, encompassing Western feminist influences, the status of women during colonial and post-independence eras. The book sheds light on the challenges encountered by the burgeoning feminist movement and deepens our comprehension of why, despite legal and constitutional safeguards against discrimination, women continue to endure oppressive practices such as dowry. It underscores women's struggles for acknowledgment and serves as a valuable compendium, offering insight into the rich history of Indian feminism.

Phulonge, Sangeeta. *Novels of Sudha Murthy: A Critical Study*.Dattsons, 2018.

This book explores various dimensions of Sudha Murthy's persona as an author, writer, wife, and philanthropist, highlighting her significant contributions to contemporary literary society. It provides a comprehensive examination of Sudha Murthy's life and works, offering valuable insights into her novels. Through her writings, Sudha Murthy captures the essence of contemporary India, portraying a blend of societal values that resonate with both modern and traditional ideals. As a writer, she diligently shares her expertise and experiences, showcasing her commitment to enriching the literary landscape. Sudha Murthy emerges as a subtle feminist, harboring no reservations about gender equality.

Divakaruni,ChitraBanerjee. *An Common Love***.**Juggernaut, 2023.

This book narrates the remarkable journey of two legends, Sudha Murthy and Narayana Murthy. It delves into their sacrifices and the challenges they encountered on their path to becoming esteemed entrepreneurs and philanthropists. It chronicles their journey from courtship to the establishment of Infosys, from marriage to parenthood. Their story unfolds

as that of two ordinary individuals from Karnataka who transformed into extraordinary figures in the country.

Parvathi. "Quest for self in the selected novels of Sudha Murthy." *International Journal of English Language, Literature, and Translation Studies*. 3.2 (2016)

Sudha Murthy's novels, considering the intricacies of life, diverse histories, cultures, and value systems. Despite a shared sense of solidarity, the women's quest for identity is depicted within the socio-cultural context. Parvathi illustrates how modern women are poised to pursue their aspirations, focusing on Sudha Murthy's depiction of the urban middle-class women's journey towards self-identity.

Vaswani,Nishtha. "Sudha Murthy: An Eminent Contribution to Literature." *International Journal of English Literature and Social Sciences.*6.1 (2021)

This paper emphasizes the authenticity depicted in Sudha Murthy's novels, captivating readers and rendering her books compelling reads. Sudha Murthy's writing spans a diverse array of topics, which contributes to the allure and fascination of her works.

Deshpande,Shashi. *That Long Silence.* NewDelhi:Penguin books,2008.

In her novel "That Long Silence" Shashi Deshpande endeavors to delve into the relationships of the female protagonist, navigating roles as a wife, mother, and, significantly, as a human being, amidst a male-centric Indian society. The novel underscores the silence entrenched within marital relationships, delving into the intricacies of the female psyche and the enigmatic aspects of women's lives influenced by prevailing conventions and traditions in Indian society. Deshpande portrays the protagonist's journey towards self-assertion, culminating in her resolute decision to seek avenues to forge a new path for herself independently.

Gopal,N.R. *A Critical Study of Novels of Anita Desai.*Atlantic, 2013**.**

This book provides a comprehensive exploration of the feminine psyche as depicted by Anita Desai. Desai predominantly focuses on female characters in her writings, with many of her novels revolving around women-centric themes. The motif of incompatible marriages

is a recurring theme in her works. Desai's female characters are portrayed as highly sensitive individuals, with some displaying a blunt demeanor at the other extreme.

Ali,Farzana S. *Novels of Manju Kapoor: A Critical Study***.** Dattsons,2015.

Manju Kapoor's novels vividly portray women's quest for liberation from political, economic and social constraints, effectively capturing the essence of women's sentiments and self reflection. The female protagonists in her works actively resist male dominance, eschewing silence for boldness, outspokenness, determination, and a proactive approach.

RESEARCH GAPS AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

Despite the significant contribution of Sudha Murthy's writings to Indian English literature and the portrayal of female protagonists' transition from submissiveness to assertiveness in patriarchal Indian society, there remains a gap in scholarly literature regarding a comprehensive analysis of the societal and cultural contexts shaping these transitions. While existing studies acknowledge Murthy's influence and the thematic evolution of her characters, there is a lack of in-depth exploration into the specific challenges faced by women in patriarchal settings and how Murthy's characters navigate these challenges.

The research paper aims to address the research gap by investigating the transition phase of female protagonists in patriarchal Indian society as depicted in the works of Sudha Murthy. Specifically, the study seeks to analyze the socio-cultural factors influencing the development of these characters from a submissive to an assertive stance, and the portrayal of family values, respect, dignity, and morals in their interpersonal interactions. By examining Murthy's novels such as "Gently Falls the Bakula," "Mahashweta," and "House of Cards," the research aims to shed light on the empowering journey of female characters in the face of societal constraints and the implications of their transformation in contemporary Indian literature.

DESCRIPTION OF BROAD AREA

The research work on **"Transition from Submission to Assertion: In the Selected Works of Sudha Murthy"** will try to understand the situation in which the transition of Indian women in

Indian society has changed through generations. The status of women has changed after the post-colonial period, so it becomes absolutely essential to reflect the transition phase of women from submission to assertion.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. The study will try to understand the position of contemporary women in patriarchal society.
2. To explore women's struggles in the quest for identity and assertion of individuality.
3. The study will examine Sudha Murthy’s novels from a female perspective.
4. Through Sudha Murthy's literary works,study will assess the pursuit of self-recognition and self-regulation.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology for this study will be qualitative, allowing for an in-depth exploration of the chosen topic. Extensive analysis of both primary and secondary sources will be conducted to provide a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. The novels selected for analysis will be meticulously examined, ensuring a thorough exploration of the objectives outlined for this research.

EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE RESEARCH

Towards the end of the research, society will have a more advanced perspective on gender equity and the changes that occurred while bearing in mind the growth of feminism. Additionally, we will have a deeper understanding of not just Sudha Murthy's female protagonists but also all of her other characters, regardless of their gender, and their transitioning thoughts.

REFERENCES

Ali, Farzana S. *Novels of Manju Kapoor: A Critical Study*. Dattsons,2015.

Beauvoir, Simone De. *The Second Sex*. New Delhi: Vintage Books,2010.

Chaudhary, Maitrayae. *Feminism in India*. Zed Books,2005.

Deshpande,Shashi.*That long silence*.New Delhi:Penguin Books,2008.

Divakurni Banerjee ,Chitra.*An Uncommon Love*.Juggernaut,2023.

Murthy,Sudha.*Gently Falls Bakula*.New Delhi:Penguin Books India,2008.

Murthy,Sudha.*House Of Cards.*New Delhi*:*Penguin Books India,2013.

Murthy,Sudha.*Mahashweta*.New Delhi:Penguin Books India,2007.

Parvathi,S. Quest for Self In The Novels of Sudha Murthy *IJELR* 3.2(2016)

Phulsunge,Sangeeta.*Novels of Sudha Murthy:A Critical Study*:Dattsons,2018.

Tandon,Neeru.*Feminism:A Paradigm Shift.*New Delhi:Atlantic Publishers,2008.

Vaswani,Nishtha. Sudha Murthy:An Emminent contribution to Literature *IJELS 6.2(2021)*

MANAV RACHNA
Vidyapeeth Shikshan

Dr. O.P. Bhalla Central Library
Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies
(A deemed-to-be-university under section 3 of UGC Act 1956)

SIMILARITY VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE

Title: Transition from Submission to Assertion in the works of Sudha Murthy

Researcher: Ritu Kalra

Registration Number: 21/ph.d/115

Supervisor: Dr. Shivani Vashist

Department: English

This is to certify that the above mentioned Short Synopsis/Thesis was scanned for similarity index through Turnitin Software on 22/02/24 ...with submission ID 2301281202 and the similarity index was found to be 4 .....%. The complete report running into 11 Pages, 2315 Word count with File Size 223 ...KB is being forwarded to the Research Supervisor/DRC/DRB for review.

Date:
22-02-2024

Rajesh Kumar 22/2/24
Dr. Rajesh Kumar
University Librarian
Dr. O.P. Bhalla Central Library
Manav Rachna International
Institute of Research & Studies
Faridabad

The complete report of the above Short Synopsis/Thesis has been reviewed and the similarity index is below the accepted norms as per the University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations 2018. The Short Synopsis/Thesis may be considered for further processing

Research Scholar

Shivani Vashist
Research Supervisor
22.2.24

Transition from Submission to Assertion: In the selected works of Sudha Murthy

by Ritu Kalra

Submission date: 22-Feb-2024 09:46AM (UTC+0530)
Submission ID: 2301281202
File name: bmission_to_Assertion_In_the_selected_works_of_Sudha_Murthy.docx (63.4K)
Word count: 2315
Character count: 13639

Transition from Submission to Assertion: In the selected works of Sudha Murthy

SHORT SYNOPSIS

by

Ritu Kalra

Registration number: 21/ Ph.d/ 115

Under the supervision of

Dr. Shivani Vashist

Professor, Department of English, SMeH

SCHOOL OF MEDIA STUDIES AND HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MANAV RACHNA INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH & STUDIES

SECTOR-43, SURAJKUND -DELHI ROAD, FARIDABAD - 121004

ABSTRACT

In India, women's journey has gone through a transition phase from the post-colonial period until the present day. In the years following independence, women's equal rights at home, at work, and in society have received a lot of attention. With the advent of the 20th century and the growth of the feminist movement, women in India were given the opportunity to bravely stand up and speak up for their rights. India has a rich literary tradition, and numerous female writers have contributed significantly to feminist discourse since independence. writers like Arundhati Roy, Anita Desai, Kamala Das, Jhumpa Lahiri, and Shashi Deshpande have not only enriched Indian literature with their diverse voices and perspectives but have also played pivotal roles in advancing feminist discourse in the country.

A female novelist named Sudha Murthy has exemplified the development of Indian English literature. Indian novelist and philanthropist Sudha Murthy has a large body of work. She has published work in both Kannada and English. Her writings are simple to understand, and the reader feels a personal connection to her stories. Sudha Murthy has always taken a brave stance and fought valiantly for women. She inspires all Indian women to rise beyond their lesser selves and become the light that rises with new life every morning by drawing on her own life

experiences. Her writings show the advancement of women. The research paper explores the transition phase of female protagonists in patriarchal Indian society. All her works *Gently falls Bakula*, *Mahashweta*, and *House of Cards* explore the character development of the female protagonist from being submissive to assertive. Her female characters have upheld family values throughout their transitional paths. Respect, dignity, and morals are exemplified by female characters in interpersonal interactions. But when her self-worth and confidence were damaged, the female protagonist broke the shackles and respectfully walked out of suffocating relationships to begin a new chapter in life.

Keywords: *Patriarchal society, Submissive, Assertive, Feminism*

Transition from Submission to Assertion: In the selected works of Sudha Murthy

ORIGINALITY REPORT

4%	3%	2%	1%
SIMILARITY INDEX	INTERNET SOURCES	PUBLICATIONS	STUDENT PAPERS

Dr. Rajesh Kumar
University Librarian
Dr. D.P. Bhalla Central Library
Manav Rachna International
Institute of Research & Studies
Faridabad

Excluding matches
less than 14 words

PRIMARY SOURCES

1	www.aiirjournal.com Internet Source	2%
2	Submitted to Manav Rachna International University Student Paper	1%
3	www.researchgate.net Internet Source	1%

Exclude quotes Off

Exclude bibliography On

Exclude matches < 14 words